

City of Fitchburg  
Conservation Commission  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2006

**COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Tom Starr, Chairman, Phil Chalifoux, Harry Karis, Mike Donnelly

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:** Tim Smith, Mike O'Hara

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Starr called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. in the Veteran's Room, First Floor, City Hall.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Notice of Intent - "Woodland Estates" mobile home park expansion, Rindge Rd.  
(cont'd from 6-27-06)**

Chris Deloge, Whitman & Bingham Assocs. & Joanne Hamberg present.

Tim: reviewed his site walk w/ Chuck Caron couple weeks ago. They disagree whether swale to left of site was subject to ConCom's jurisdiction. There is a defined channel, flows part of the year, may be intermittent stream.

Chris: no resource area feeds this area, therefore not jurisdictional.

He is working on a wetland restoration plan for the area to rear of site that had been filled in. Will have at next meeting.

Also, Whitman & Bingham is working on revisions to plan to show water & sewer connection thru adjacent JCJ development. That will be submitted as a revision of the Woodland Estates NOI.

A second ConCom site visit scheduled for 8-22-06 at 5:00 p.m.

Chris will stake out centerline of the swale for site visit.

Mr. Donnelly: next month, perhaps ConCom can decide on the wetland restoration plan and they can start that work right away.

Hearing continued to August 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Notice of Intent - A. J. Wornham, 558-562 Mechanic St., new auto repair garage**

Sean Hale, David E. Ross Associates reviewed plans that had been revised per site walk with Tim.

Tim - owner has cleaned up a lot of site, removed much debris.

In area of intermittent stream to the north -- how will slope be stabilized when junk is removed?

Maybe jute matting.

Discussion on whether parking area to rear should be paved or not, whether paved area should have curb or not.

Decided:

- Pavement in front of building, gravel surface in rear is OK.
- Revised plan to show berms at perimeter of paved area.
- Cross drains in front are to be modified to include oil & gas traps (hoods).
- Wetland restoration and replication are to be done first, then rest of site work.

Commission will vote on Order of Conditions at August meeting.

Motion made & seconded to continue hearing to August 29. Vote 4-0 in favor.

**Notice of Intent - City of Fitchburg, Rt. 12 reconstruction, near Wanoosnoc Rd. & Bemis Rd.  
intersection**

Hearing opened. Peter Donohue, Parsons Transportation Group presented plans to widen Water Street.

Intersection improvements at Bemis/Wanoosnoc intersection will result in eliminating approx. 75 feet of bank - will be piped -- no practical options for replacing streambank elsewhere.

Stream of questionable value. All other portions of waterway on that side of Rt. 12 are piped.

Entire Rt. 12 protect will take two years.

No public comment. Motion made & seconded to approve Orders of Conditions with boilerplate conditions. Vote 4-0 to approve.

**Notice of Intent - Matson Homes, Inc., "Parker Hill Estates" subdivision, off Brierwood Drive & Colony Rd.**

Hearing opened. Wes Flis gave background of project.

NOI filing includes wetland crossing for road and 16 individual house locations. House locations are all in the buffer zone -- no additional wetland filling.

MEPA wanted more infiltration of stormwater. Engineer has enlarged, elongated stormwater basins.

Q: Will there be net loss of sand & gravel (as with "Brickyard Hill")?

A: There will be balanced cut & fill on site.

Q: what will be phasing?

A: 1) Colony Road entrance thru to Brierwood/Westminster Hill Road.  
2) complete loop road  
3) the two cul-de-sacs

If there was no wetland crossing for one of the cul-de-sacs, subdivision would have 31 lots

No public comment.

Motion made & seconded to continue hearing to Aug. 29. Vote 4-0 to approve.

ConCom site visit will be scheduled after Tim makes a site visit.

**OTHER ITEMS****Arden Mills modifications**

Commission reviewed July 18<sup>th</sup> site visit re: relocation of Buildings #2 & 3.

Motion made & seconded to approve proposed modification of Order of Conditions for relocation of Buildings 2 & 3 as shown on Whitman & Bingham's 11 x 17 conceptual plan, subject to review & approval of final detailed plans showing relocated buildings, cleaning up on opposite bank of river, submittal of written report by engineer concerning structural integrity of the two dams.

Vote 4-0 to approve.

Fisher Rd. - conceptual subdivision plan - Bribern LLC

Larry Greene, Thompson-Liston Assocs. & Brian Devellis, applicant in to discuss concept plan for 23 lots, two wetland crossings for access road.

It was suggested that they file for determination on wetlands delineation (ANRAD) first, and then proceed from there.

25 Newport St. conceptual plan - Bribern LLC

Larry Greene, Thompson-Liston Assocs. & Brian Devellis, applicant in to discuss concept plan for 40 loft style condos in former Parks-Cramer building.

Disturbance to riverfront area will be no closer than existing. Discussion on old tailrace between building and Vogue Wallcoverings. Applicant may be buying Vogue to provide access to site.

Suggested: remove chain link fence blocking access to riverfront -- what is being kept out?

Show riverfront improvements.

Brickyard Estates, Roosevelt St.

Update on erosion control work at the Brickyard Estates subdivision. DPW Commissioner has ordered them to install sidewalk, loan & seed area, several areas of siltation of pond have to be removed.

Rather than enlarging detention basin near Temple Street to make site according to plan (and removing large trees on hillside) they will investigate whether it is possible to tie into catchbasin in Temple Street -- will result in narrow excavation - removal of couple small trees.

Commission informed of emergency Water Dept. work at Rt. 31 near Greene's Pond to repair water main break. Will be using trenchless technology.

Commission agreed to order two revised ConCom handbooks from MACC -- pay for from wetlands filing fee account.

Meeting adjourned: 8:15 p.m.

*Next meeting: August 29, 2006*

*Approved: -----*